
>>LBB: Languages Behind Bars – Piloting

The LBB materials have so far been piloted in 3 out of 5 countries – with the remaining countries due to begin piloting really shortly. What have we learnt so far? Well, we know that the result of positive communication is a positive working atmosphere:

Around twenty staff members at the Gradignan Detention Centre, located in a small urban community of Bordeaux, received Bulgarian language training using LBB tools. The participants, including guards and officials, doctors, probation officers and social workers, all emphasised the usefulness of these LBB materials. Their main benefit derives from their relevance to the day-to-day work of Prison Administration personnel and to the real-life situations with which they are directly confronted. One of the prison guards was particularly amazed at what happened after being able to communicate basic words such as “hello” and “thank you” in Bulgarian to a Bulgarian inmate. The inmate became more respectful and more cooperative knowing that the guard had tried to speak his language – it was just a symbolic gesture, but had a positive effect on the dynamics of their interaction.

>>Finalising the Materials – what are we going to do?



Following our experiences in the piloting, the team took to the KETSO board (see www.ketso.org.uk) to see what went well, how we can build on our success, what challenges we faced, and how to address these issues in the finalisation stage.

Some great ideas, and some hurdles to cross – but we’re looking forward to this final stage of the project, so that we can get everything into place for a long-term sustainable educational tool!

Given the feedback from the piloting, we’re considering turning the materials into a really practical textbook publication. What do you think?

>> LBB Website

Information on the on-going project activities will be distributed in due course through following project newsletters and on the project website:

www.LBB-project.eu



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>>Contact



Paul Talbot

die Berater[®]
Wipplingerstrasse 32 / 23-26
A-1010 Vienna, Austria
Tel.: +43 1 532 45 45-0
Fax: +43 1 532 45 45-1145
E-Mail: p.talbot@dieberater.com
www.dieberater.com